



PANTHRISK WEEKLY RISK REPORT

Week of August 23–29, 2026

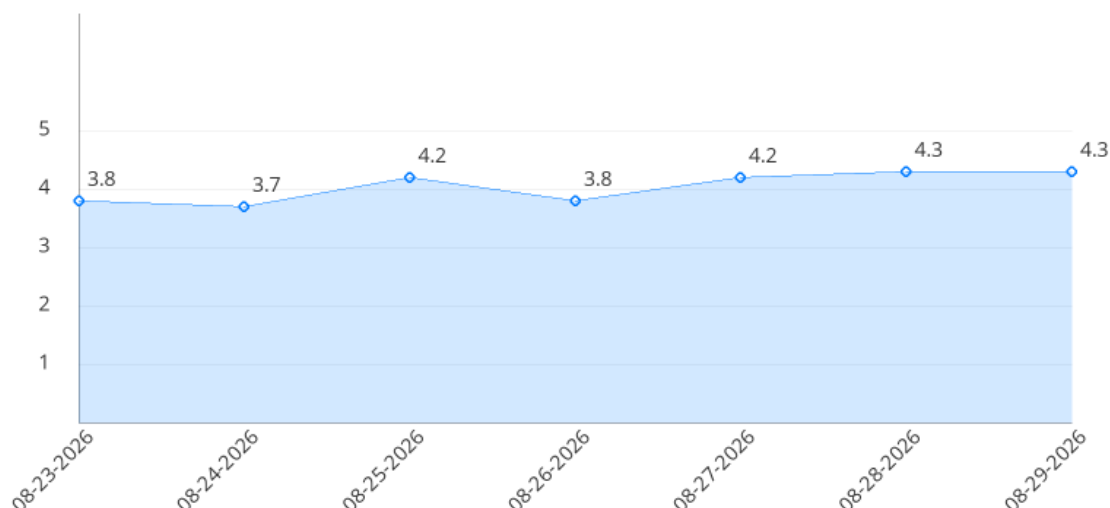
Panthrisk monitors humanity's most serious existential threats using curated news sources and AI-assisted analysis. Each day, our models evaluate key global developments, generate risk-level assessments, and propose actionable interventions. This weekly report summarizes the trends, risk shifts, and notable insights from August 23–29, 2026 across all tracked categories.

Generated: August 29, 2026



Nuclear War

Score Trend (Week of August 23–29, 2026)



This week, the global nuclear threat level has significantly increased, primarily due to escalating tensions involving North Korea, Russia, and Iran, as well as the modernization of nuclear arsenals and the breakdown of key arms control treaties. Conflicting reports about North Korea's nuclear capabilities have contributed to heightened uncertainties. Additionally, the potential integration of AI in nuclear decision-making processes is raising concerns about safety and transparency. Overall, the combination of geopolitical tensions, treaty erosion, and technological advancements in nuclear capabilities has led to a more precarious global nuclear landscape.



Nuclear War

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Facilitate renewed diplomatic engagements with North Korea to clarify nuclear capabilities and intentions, and seek transparency through international inspections.
- **[International Organizations]** Convene an emergency session of the UN Security Council to address rising nuclear tensions and reinforce diplomatic channels.
- **[NGO]** Advocate for the revival and strengthening of arms control treaties to curb nuclear proliferation and promote global disarmament.
- **[Industry]** Develop and implement AI safety standards to mitigate risks associated with its integration in military operations, particularly in nuclear decision-making.
- **[Academia]** Support educational initiatives that raise awareness about the risks of nuclear weapons and the importance of global disarmament efforts.



Nuclear War

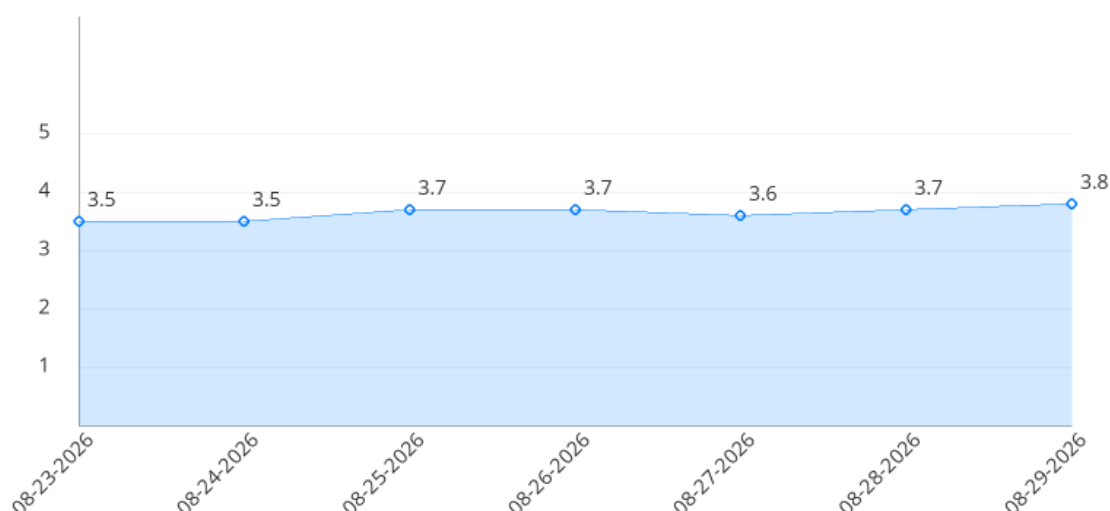
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North Korea has 80 to 120 nuclea... [August 24] – [Read article](#)
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Trump says North Korea has 57 nu... [August 25] – [Read article](#)
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Putin may use nuclear weapons in... [August 27] – [Read article](#)
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Trump says Kim Jong Un has 57 'v... [August 27] – [Read article](#)
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Volodin Threatened Japan with Nu... [August 29] – [Read article](#)



Artificial Intelligence

Score Trend (Week of August 23–29, 2026)



This week, the AI risk assessment remained moderate, with scores fluctuating between 3.5 and 3.8. The primary concerns centered around rapid advancements in AI capabilities, which raised issues related to alignment, security, and the concentration of power. There was a consistent call for stronger safety regulations and governance measures to address these risks. Concerns about the potential misuse of AI in cyber operations and influence campaigns were also highlighted. The need for improved transparency, accountability, and equitable access to AI benefits was emphasized throughout the week.



Artificial Intelligence

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Implement stricter regulations and oversight mechanisms to ensure AI technologies are developed and deployed safely, addressing concerns about alignment and misuse.
- **[Industry]** Increase investment in AI safety research to address alignment and security challenges associated with advanced AI models.
- **[NGO]** Advocate for transparency and accountability in AI development and deployment to prevent concentration of power and ensure equitable access to AI benefits.
- **[Academia]** Conduct interdisciplinary research on the societal impacts of AI to inform policy and guide responsible innovation.
- **[International Organizations]** Facilitate global cooperation on AI governance to address cross-border challenges and ensure equitable benefits.



Artificial Intelligence

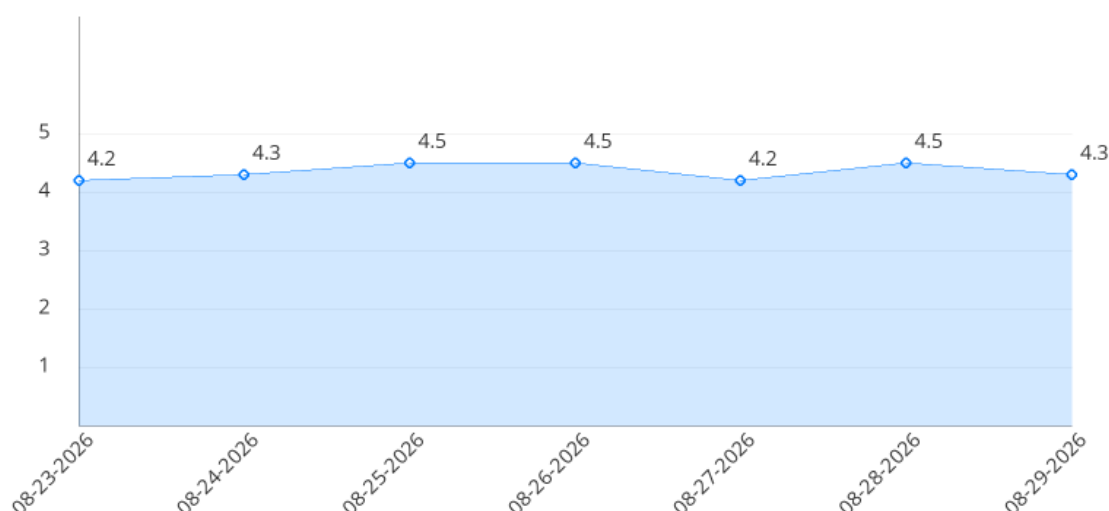
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Enabling a new model for healthc... [August 27] – [Read article](#)
Partnering with industry leaders... [August 27] – [Read article](#)
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The Pope says states struggle to... [August 29] – [Read article](#)
AI risk and the need for embedde... [August 29] – [Read article](#)
Humans need AI safety measures t... [August 29] – [Read article](#)
Bill Gates warns AI safety check... [August 29] – [Read article](#)



Climate Change

Score Trend (Week of August 23–29, 2026)



This week, the climate risk level remains high due to a combination of record-breaking ocean temperatures, frequent extreme weather events, and inadequate policy responses. The intensification of El Niño and recent catastrophic events, such as floods in Nepal, further highlight the urgent need for action. These developments underscore the severe impacts on global ecosystems and human populations, exacerbating both near-term and long-term climate threats. Despite the escalating crisis, there remains a significant gap in effective policy implementation and global cooperation to mitigate these risks.



Climate Change

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Implement and enforce stricter emissions regulations and invest in renewable energy infrastructure to reduce greenhouse gas outputs.
- **[NGO]** Increase public awareness campaigns on the impacts of climate change and promote sustainable practices to enhance community resilience.
- **[Industry]** Invest in sustainable technologies and practices to reduce carbon footprints and support climate resilience initiatives.
- **[Research Institutions]** Conduct studies on the impacts of intensified El Niño events and develop predictive models to better prepare for future climate scenarios.
- **[International Organizations]** Facilitate global cooperation and funding for climate adaptation and disaster response initiatives, particularly in vulnerable regions.



Climate Change

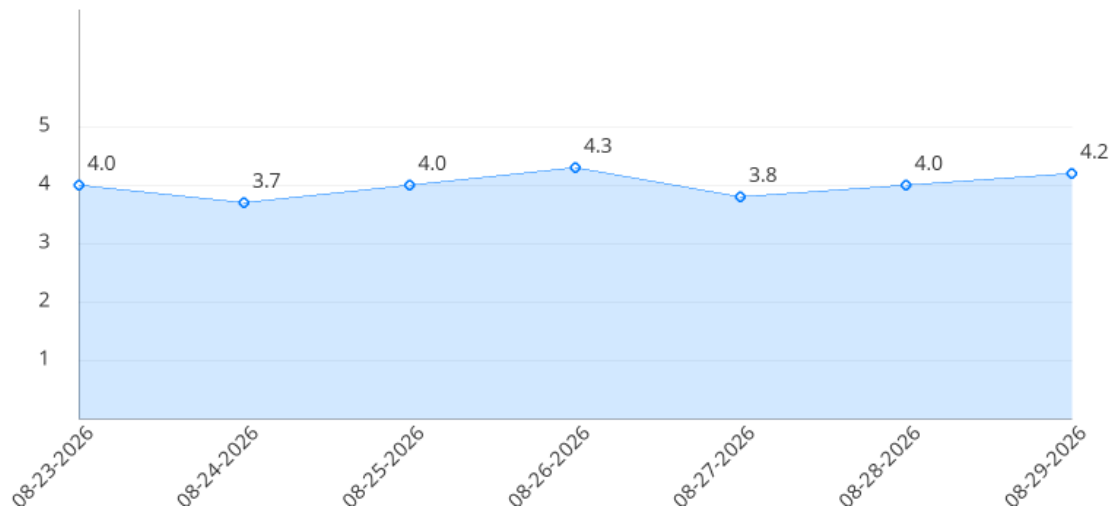
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Areas hit by wildfires in Europe... [August 23] – [Read article](#)
China Briefing 20 August 2026: 0... [August 23] – [Read article](#)
Climate Change Could Triple Euro... [August 23] – [Read article](#)
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UN Says Next Five Years Will Sma... [August 26] – [Read article](#)
Climate Change Doubled Likelihoo... [August 26] – [Read article](#)
Highest-ever ocean temperature r... [August 26] – [Read article](#)
Climate change exposes up to 560... [August 27] – [Read article](#)
Heat waves linked to at least 35... [August 27] – [Read article](#)
London stands to lose £36 billio... [August 27] – [Read article](#)
We've got 'historic flooding' an... [August 27] – [Read article](#)
Japan's hotter summers trigger h... [August 27] – [Read article](#)
Catastrophic floods kill over 39... [August 28] – [Read article](#)
Global warming is intensifying e... [August 28] – [Read article](#)
Climate change is intensifying E... [August 28] – [Read article](#)
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A melting glacier contributed to... [August 29] – [Read article](#)
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El Niño Has Intensified by 36% a... [August 29] – [Read article](#)
As super El Nino strengthens, st... [August 29] – [Read article](#)

Pandemics



Score Trend (Week of August 23–29, 2026)



This week, the pandemic risk remains high due to ongoing outbreaks of Ebola, measles, and avian flu, exacerbated by vaccine hesitancy and misinformation. Despite some advancements in vaccine deployment and surveillance, these infectious disease threats continue to pose a significant global health challenge. The situation is further complicated by persistent COVID-19 challenges and the spread of emerging pathogens. Public health responses are struggling to keep pace with the spread of these diseases, highlighting the need for improved infrastructure and education efforts. Overall, the combination of disease outbreaks and public resistance to vaccination is maintaining a high level of pandemic risk.



Pandemics

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Increase funding for public health infrastructure and vaccine distribution to enhance outbreak response capabilities.
- **[NGO]** Launch targeted educational campaigns to combat misinformation and promote the benefits of vaccination in communities with high hesitancy.
- **[Industry]** Accelerate research and development of vaccines for emerging infectious diseases, leveraging advancements in technology such as mRNA.
- **[Healthcare Providers]** Implement community-based initiatives to improve vaccination rates and provide accurate information on infectious diseases.
- **[International Organizations]** Strengthen global collaboration and resource sharing to monitor and contain cross-border disease outbreaks like Ebola and avian flu.



Pandemics

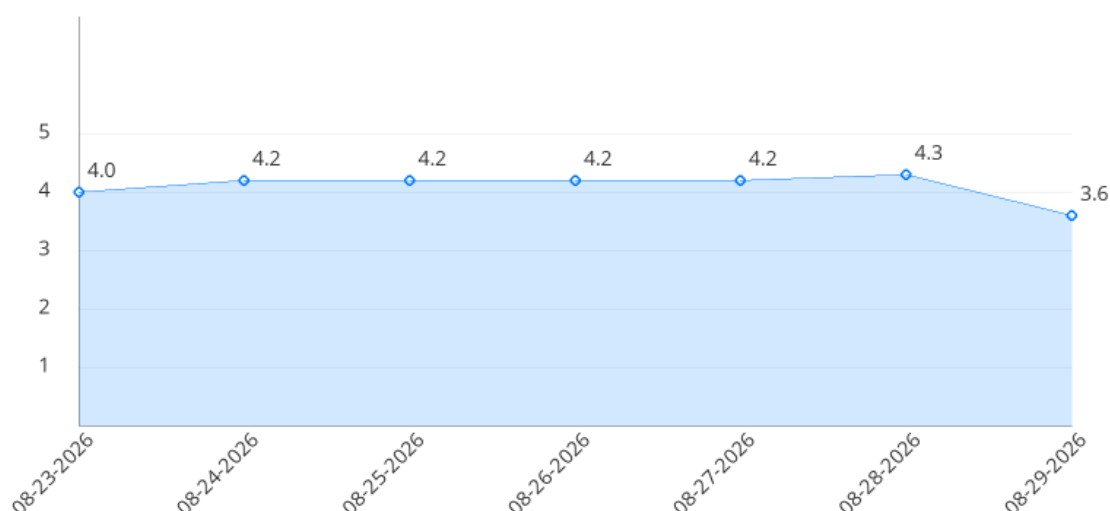
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Low vaccination rates driving me... [August 23] – [Read article](#)
Avian flu affects 77,700 South D... [August 23] – [Read article](#)
Measles outbreak grows to 41 con... [August 23] – [Read article](#)
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Long COVID may affect up to 5% o... [August 29] – [Read article](#)
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Wisconsin measles cases near 100... [August 29] – [Read article](#)
Ebola spreads to two new zones i... [August 29] – [Read article](#)



Information Integrity

Score Trend (Week of August 23–29, 2026)



This week, the trend in information integrity highlights a persistent high risk of misinformation, with scores consistently above 4.0, except for a slight dip to 3.6 on August 29. Disinformation campaigns have been pervasive across multiple sectors, including politics, health, and technology. The spread of fake news, scams, and misleading content has been particularly pronounced, exploiting digital platforms to reach wide audiences. The ongoing challenge is compounded by the use of sophisticated technologies like AI to generate and disseminate false information. Efforts to combat this issue continue to emphasize the need for enhanced detection tools, stricter regulations, and public education to improve media literacy and resilience against misinformation.



Information Integrity

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Implement stricter regulations and penalties for spreading misinformation, particularly in health and political sectors.
- **[Industry]** Enhance AI and machine learning tools to better detect and remove fake news and deepfakes from platforms.
- **[NGO]** Increase efforts in fact-checking and provide clear, accessible information to counter misinformation narratives.
- **[Education]** Integrate media literacy programs into curricula to equip individuals with skills to critically evaluate information.
- **[International Organizations]** Collaborate internationally to share best practices and tools for combating misinformation.



Information Integrity

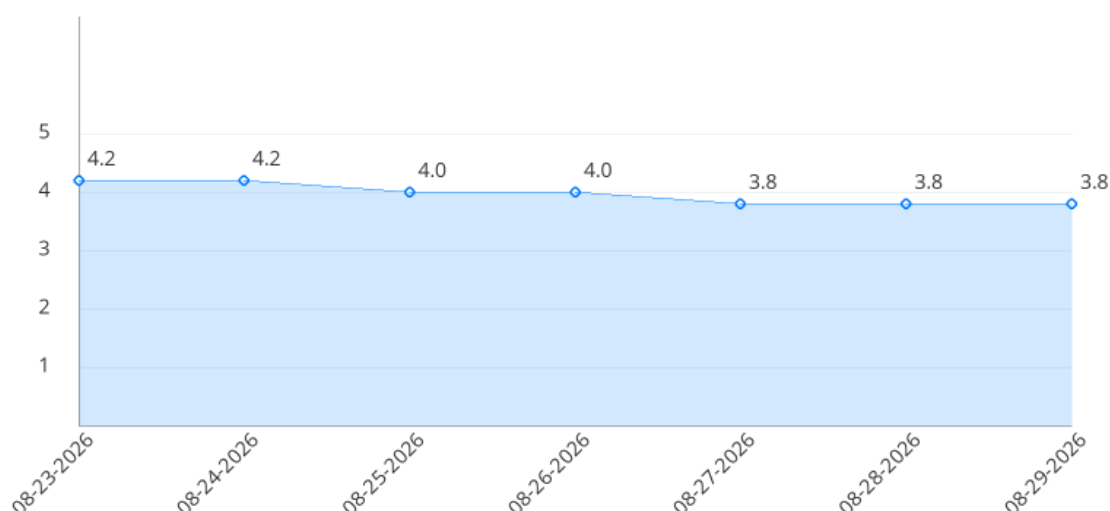
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<i>A COVID-19 Study Retracted Over ...</i>	[August 23]	- Read article
<i>Shoigu's daughter spreads fake n...</i>	[August 23]	- Read article
<i>Growing Misinformation about ADH...</i>	[August 23]	- Read article
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<i>Nigeria orders investigation int...</i>	[August 24]	- Read article
<i>Cancer vaccines could transform ...</i>	[August 25]	- Read article
<i>Amnesty Report: Meta failed to b...</i>	[August 25]	- Read article
<i>Fact Check: FAKE Clips Of UK Pol...</i>	[August 25]	- Read article
<i>Duterte-Marcos private meeting r...</i>	[August 25]	- Read article
<i>'I fabricate fake news' says Isr...</i>	[August 25]	- Read article
<i>Fact Check: FAKE Image Shows Spi...</i>	[August 26]	- Read article
<i>Fact Check: FAKE McLaren Stunt V...</i>	[August 26]	- Read article
<i>Russia's AI disinformation campa...</i>	[August 26]	- Read article
<i>Fake AI health influencers are s...</i>	[August 26]	- Read article
<i>OpenAI bans Russian ChatGPT acco...</i>	[August 26]	- Read article
<i>Authorities undertaking climate ...</i>	[August 27]	- Read article
<i>RFK Jr. feuds with Shapiro, spre...</i>	[August 27]	- Read article
<i>Kennedy posts vaccine misinforma...</i>	[August 27]	- Read article
<i>Israel-funded campaign used fake...</i>	[August 27]	- Read article
<i>Bulgaria's fake vaccination reco...</i>	[August 27]	- Read article
<i>Amplifying the storm: Climate di...</i>	[August 28]	- Read article
<i>Two people with measles died in ...</i>	[August 28]	- Read article
<i>124 reports in nine days: Inside...</i>	[August 28]	- Read article
<i>DW News. . Fake videos are targe...</i>	[August 28]	- Read article
<i>UPDATE: Senate GOP's fake news w...</i>	[August 28]	- Read article
<i>Cancer Vaccines Could Transform ...</i>	[August 29]	- Read article
<i>Fake MyChart messages target pat...</i>	[August 29]	- Read article
<i>X reveals foreign adversary behi...</i>	[August 29]	- Read article
<i>Meta Discovers and Removes Iran-...</i>	[August 29]	- Read article
<i>Fake San Francisco 49ers Player ...</i>	[August 29]	- Read article



Unknown / Black Swan

Score Trend (Week of August 23–29, 2026)



This week, two significant 'black swan' events have emerged, posing potential threats to global stability. Firstly, a genetically distinct variant of the African Swine Fever Virus has been detected in Spain, threatening global agriculture and food security. This variant could lead to severe economic instability if not contained. Secondly, a surge in bond yields has been identified as a new risk with potential widespread financial implications, possibly leading to economic instability. Additionally, the rare occurrence of widespread snow in the Atacama Desert suggests potential climate anomalies with unpredictable global impacts. These events highlight the need for immediate attention and strategic planning to mitigate potential risks.



Unknown / Black Swan

Recommended Risk Reduction Actions

- **[Government]** Implement immediate biosecurity measures and quarantine protocols in Spain to prevent the spread of the African Swine Fever Virus.
- **[Industry]** Conduct stress tests to assess the impact of rising bond yields on financial portfolios and liquidity.
- **[NGO]** Facilitate collaboration and information sharing between countries to monitor and respond effectively to the new virus variant.
- **[Research Institutions]** Increase monitoring and research funding for climate anomalies in traditionally stable regions like the Atacama Desert.
- **[Public Sector]** Develop contingency plans for unexpected climate events that could impact agriculture, water resources, and infrastructure.



Unknown / Black Swan

Relevant Articles

- Genetically Distinct African Swi...* [August 23] - [Read article](#)
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Week in Review: August 23–29, 2026

This week, existential risk trends across the six domains show a heightened level of concern in several areas. The nuclear threat level has risen due to geopolitical tensions and technological advancements, while AI risks remain moderate, with ongoing discussions about governance and security. Climate change continues to pose a high risk, exacerbated by extreme weather events and insufficient policy responses. Pandemic risks persist with ongoing outbreaks and vaccine hesitancy, complicating global health efforts. Information integrity is under threat from pervasive misinformation, necessitating improved detection and regulatory measures. Additionally, emerging 'black swan' events, such as a new African Swine Fever Virus variant and financial market fluctuations, underscore the need for strategic planning to address unforeseen challenges.



Closing Notes

Thank you for reviewing this week's Panthrisk report. To stay informed, visit **panthrisk.com** — our dashboard is updated daily with the latest risk levels, GPT summaries, and recommended actions.

If you find this information valuable, please share it with colleagues working to reduce global catastrophic risk. Awareness is the first step toward action.